

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /045 W

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O R 141610Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC 5750

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAKAR 4462

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EAID, G, SG

SUBJ: PAN AFRICAN AIR INDUSTRIES

REF: A. STATE 158880 (NOTAL), B. OUAGADOUGOU 2033,
C. LIBREVILLE 1399, D. LIBREVILLE 1402

1. ROBERTSON AND ASSOCIATES SPENT SEVERAL DAYS IN DAKAR AND HAD APPOINTMENTS WITH GOS OFFICIALS INCLUDING MINISTERS OF FINANCE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES. ROBERTSON ARRANGED ALL OWN APPOINTMENTS, AND CONTACT WITH EMBASSY WAS ALMOST AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

2. DISCUSSIONS WITH PAAI PEOPLE TEMPORARILY REMAINING IN DAKAR HAVE YIELDED FOLLOWING: IMF OFFICIAL ANTOINE YAMEOGO (VOLTAIC) SUPPOSEDLY ORIGINATED IDEA FOR AIRFREIGHT LINE. YAMEOGO WAS APPARENTLY HELPFUL IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS FOR ROBERTSON, AND DURING STAY IN DAKAR, ROBERTSON MADE MANY CALLS TO YAMEOGO IN WASHINGTON. ROBERTSON CLAIMS EXPERIENCE

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WITH LTV IN ADDITION TO USAF SERVICE, AND IS PRIMARILY

INTERESTED IN AIRFREIGHT SIDE OF OPERATION. HE HAS IN MIND, HOWEVER, WIDE RANGE OF JOINT-VENTURE PROJECTS TO GENERATE CARGO. AMONG IDEAS MENTIONED ARE CHICKEN RAISING IN UPPER VOLTA, WITH ASSOCIATED GRAIN PRODUCTION, FISHING IN SENEGAL, AND TRUCKING AND SHIPPING LINES.

3. UNDER QUESTIONING, PAAI OFFICIALS ADMITTED THAT THEY HAD ONLY \$200,000 IN WORKING CAPITAL, AND THAT CAME FROM PAXTON VAN LINES, US FURNITURE MOVING COMPANY. THEY PROFESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THEY COULD COME UP WITH FINANCING, HOWEVER, ONCE AGREEMENTS AND GUARANTEES SIGNED WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS. VAGUE REFERENCE WAS MADE TO \$600 MILLION DEVELOPMENT BANK YAMEOGO SUPPOSEDLY IN PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING.

4. ROBERTSON GIVES IMPRESSION OF DYNAMIC, FAST-THINKING BUSINESS EXECUTIVE, BUT DOES NOT LIKE TO ANSWER DETAILED QUESTIONS ON SPECIFIC POINTS. DAKAR WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION STATE OR COMMERCE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE CONCERNING PAAI.
AGGREY

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
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